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NORTH AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE COMMAND

W O I R

WEEKLY INTELLIGENCE REVIEW (U)

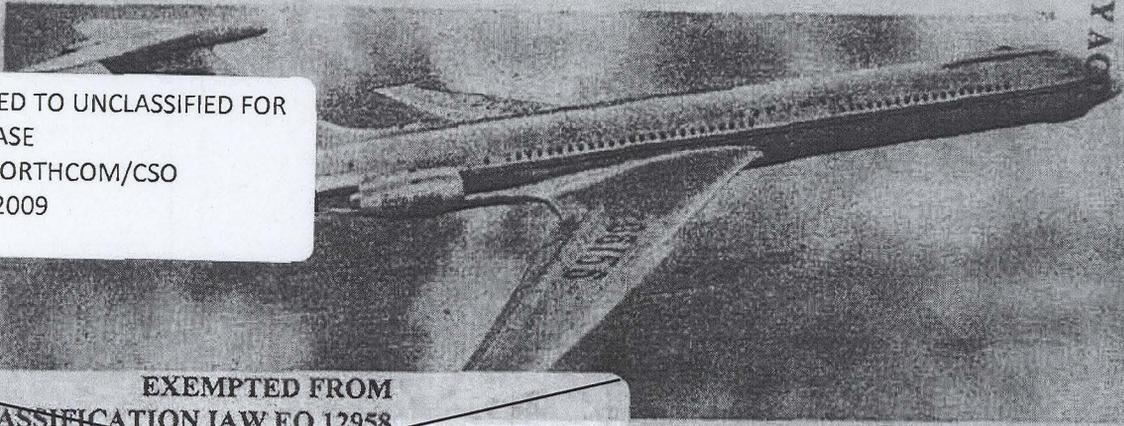
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WIR 46/66
18 Nov 1966
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Weekly Intelligence Review

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Issue No. 46/66, 18 November 1966

The WIR in Brief

Communist Military Capabilities

UNIDENTIFIED VEHICLE LAUNCHED FROM PLESETSK INSTEAD OF TYURATAM OR KAPUSTIN YAR

Telemetry unique.

[Redacted]

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

[Redacted]

Portion identified as non-responsive to the appeal

Space

CORRECTION: CAMERA FOR OPTICAL TRACKING NET PERFORMS BETTER THAN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED

Has accuracy within 6 seconds of arc.
COSMOS 131 A RECCE SATELLITE LAUNCHED FROM PLESETSK

5th to be launched from Plesetsk ICBM complex.
SOME LUNA 12 DETAILS REPORTED IN SOVIET PRESS

Picture of probe presented.
'NEW' COSMONAUT FOODS MAY BE COPIES, OR EVEN SAMPLES, OF ASTRONAUT CHOW
Some had some die markings as US items.

COVER: IL-62 transport (from Investia) (OFFICIAL USE ONLY)
NOTE: Pages 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 34, 35 and 38 of this issue are blank.

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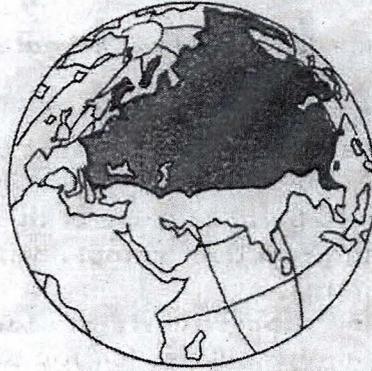
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COMMUNIST MILITARY CAPABILITIES



current
developments
and trends in
the armed forces
of the
Communist World

50X1 and 3, E.O.13526

Unidentified Vehicle Launched from Plesetsk Instead of Tyuratam or Kapustin Yar

An unidentified vehicle was launched from Plesetsk, in the northwestern USSR, to the Kamchatka impact area in the Soviet Far East, a distance of about 3,100 n. m. at 0804Z on 4 November.

Previous launches at the operational ICBM site at Plesetsk have been held only to train troops, fire SS-6s and SS-7s, or to orbit military reconnaissance satellites. Plesetsk has not been known in the past to have an R&D function. R&D launches of surface-to-surface missiles are usually conducted at Tyuratam or Kapustin Yar -- ICBMs at the former, all others at the latter.

(DIA)

(SECRET)

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significant
intelligence
on space
developments
and trends

CORRECTION

Camera for Optical Tracking Net Performs Better than Previously Reported

The modified aerial camera used by the Soviets' optical satellite-tracking net "Interobs" (Soviet nomenclature) provides data within 6 seconds of arc -- not 6 degrees of arc erroneously reported at the bottom of page 6, WIR 38/66. It is, then, 3600 times as accurate as previously reported.

(DIA)

~~(SECRET)~~

Cosmos 131 a Recce Satellite Launched from Plesetsk

The Soviets launched Cosmos 131, a military reconnaissance satellite, from the Plesetsk complex at about 0951Z, 12 November, into an orbit with an Equatorial inclination of 72.76 degrees. A heavy Venik upper stage was used to inject the payload into orbit.

Cosmos 131 is the Soviets's 18th successful launch of a recce satellite this year and the 5th launch of such a vehicle from Plesetsk. The primary mission of the new satellite is believed to be high-resolution photographic reconnaissance, although Cosmos 131 could be performing other missions as well, such as ELINT. It will probably be de-orbited on 20 November.

(NORAD)

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Some Luna 12 Details Reported in Soviet Press

Soviet newspaper recently published photographs of Luna 12, the USSR's latest lunar orbiter, gave some information on its mission, characteristics, and capabilities, and reproduced pictures of the Moon's surface which the orbiter transmitted.

Mission. Luna 12, according to the Soviet press, continued the program begun by lunar orbiters Luna 10 and Luna 11 (launched in April and August, respectively). It reportedly is collecting data on radiation conditions and micrometeorite density in near-lunar space, receiving radio-frequency electromagnetic radiation from space in regions of the frequency spectrum not receivable through the Earth's atmosphere, transmitting video images of the Moon's surface, and assisting in studies of the Moon's gravitational field by sending radio signals which allow scientists to observe changes in Luna 12's orbital parameters.

Chronology. Luna 12 was launched on 22 October and at 2347 hours, Moscow time, on 25 October, was injected into lunar orbit. An hour prior to this time, when the probe was about 8,000 kilometers from the Moon, the vehicle was stabilized with respect to the lunar vertical and then turned to a certain angle; at the proper moment the liquid-propellant retro-engine was switched on for 28 seconds, reducing Luna 12's speed to 1,148 meters per second. This speed reduction sent the vehicle into a lunar orbit of the following approximate parameters:

Inclination	Nearly Equatorial
Period	3 hours, 25 minutes
Aposelene	1,740 kilometers
Periselene	100 kilometers

Description. The photo on page 36 names the principal features of Luna 12 and points out their location. Briefly, the probe consists of a retrofire installation, an astro-orientation system, an instrument compartment, instrumentation on the probe's outer surface (including a radiometer, antennas, and the photo-TV apparatus which photographs the lunar surface). Also attached to the probe were some Soviet emblems.

Photography. Press articles reported certain probe characteristics as follows:

- Video images consist of 1100 lines per frame, the same as that of the photo-TV system on Zond 3, the space probe which last year passed by the Moon and sent to Earth pictures of part of the reverse side of the Moon. (Ground resolution of





Luna 12's photography will depend also on the distance at which the pictures are taken, the area covered by each frame of photography, and the stability of the station when the pictures are taken.)

- Maximum deviation of the probe's from its desired orientation during photography does not exceed 6 seconds of arc (1/600th of a degree).
- Video was first transmitted to the ground in a "review" or "survey" mode, to allow ground personnel to choose the most interesting photography. Selected photos were then transmitted to Earth on command.

Two photographs taken by Luna 12, each covering an area of about 25 square kilometers, are shown on page 37. The two areas covered are 250 km apart. The small picture shows the area in which the two pictures were taken. A region southeast of the crater Aristarchus was selected because of several peculiarities noted there previously by astronomers:

- A strange luminescence indicating absorption in the ultra-violet.
- The apparent issuance of molecular hydrogen from the Moon, as indicated by spectroscopy by the Crimean Astrophysical Observatory.
- Observation by the Shternberg Astronomical Institute of a gas/dust cloud.

(Soviet Press; NORAD)
(UNCLASSIFIED)

'New' Cosmonaut Foods May be Copies, or Even Samples, of Astronaut Chow

Dr. N. P. Nefed'yeva of the Institute of Nutrition of the Soviet Academy of Sciences in July showed a visitor samples of "new style" pre-packaged foods, allegedly of Soviet manufacture, which were to be used in the Soviet space program. The samples may have been careful reproductions of US-made items or even actual samples of US items obtained for evaluation and/or duplication.

Five of the foods appeared to be identical to those produced in the US. Two dehydrated reconstitutable bars were prepared by a molding procedure currently used only by a certain US laboratory; 3 bite-sized foods appeared to be of the same composition and all had almost the exact die markings of and were of the same size as the US products.

All of the products displayed were packed in cellophane-like bags, 6 bite-size pieces per bag, with one rehydratable bar per bag. No examples





of zero-gravity dispensers were shown. Dr. Nefed'yeva did not seem familiar with the use, reconstitution, or eating of the foods.

In their space program the Soviets previously have used unprocessed foods or purees packaged in tubes -- not in bars or bags. The new packaging represents, at the very least, departures from previous Soviet practice and adoption of US ideas.

(CIA)

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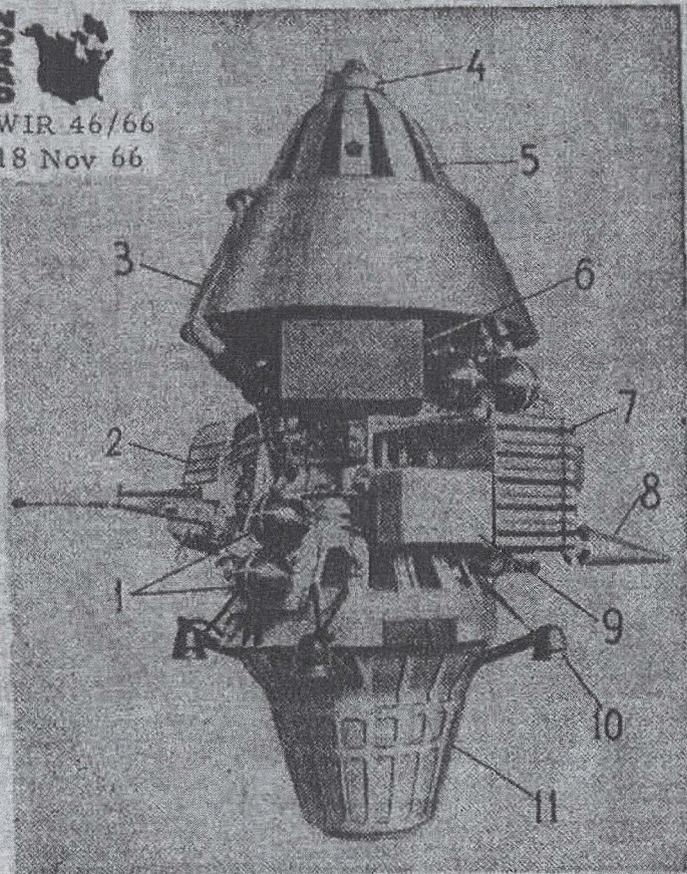
Luna 12

(From Soviet Press)

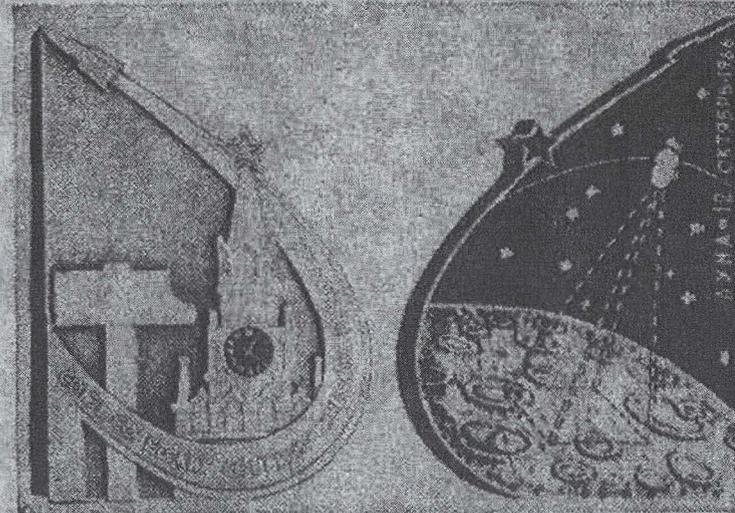
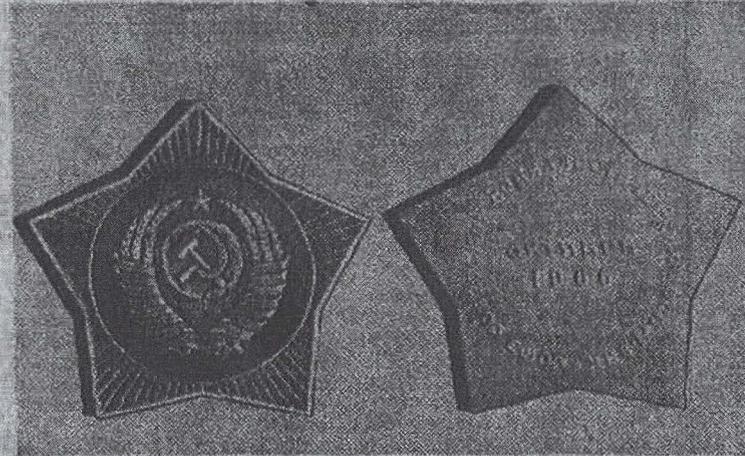
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WIR 46/66
18 Nov 66



1. Propellant supply for astroorientation system.
2. Photo-TV device.
3. Radiator for heat regulation.
4. Radiometer.
5. Instrument compartment.
6. Chemical battery.
7. Optical-mechanical components of astroorientation system.
8. Antenna.
9. Electronic components of astroorientation system.
10. Control jet.
11. Braking engine for course correction.



Soviet Emblems
Carried by Luna 12

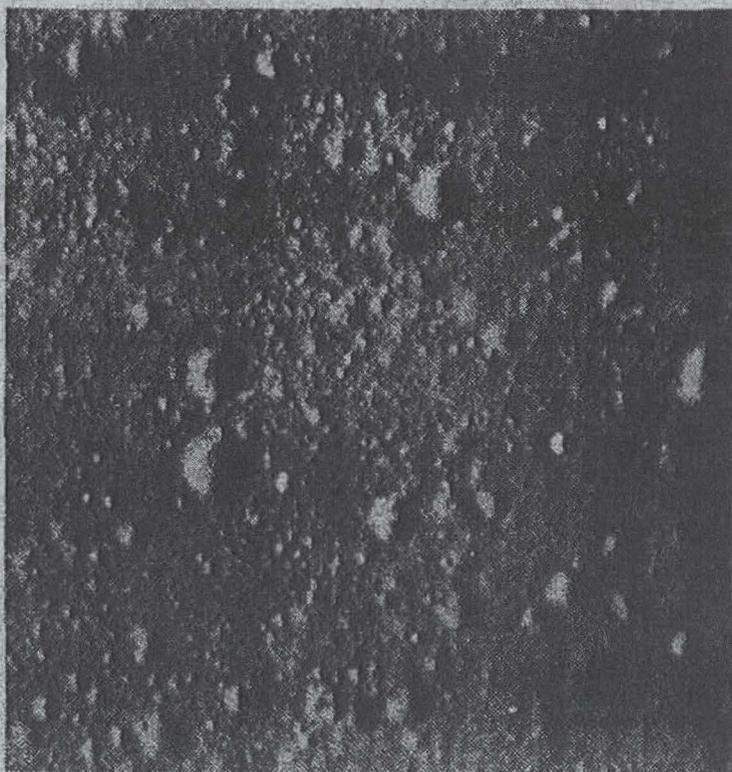
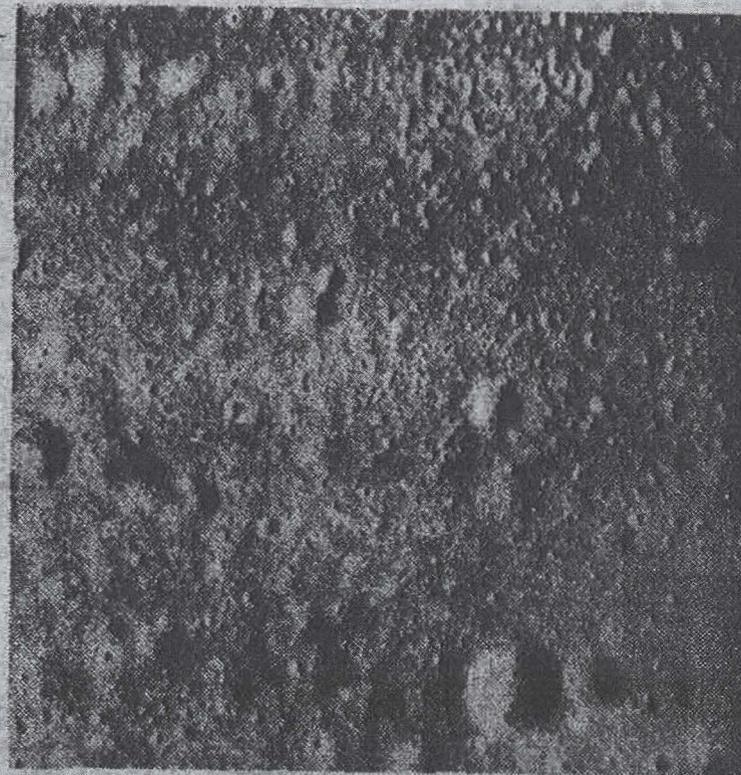
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The Moon as Photographed by Luna 12
(From Soviet Press)

Areas covered: 25 sq km.
(about 9.5 square miles)

Smallest craters: 15-20 meters across
Largest craters:
(below) 500 meters across
(right) 600 meters across



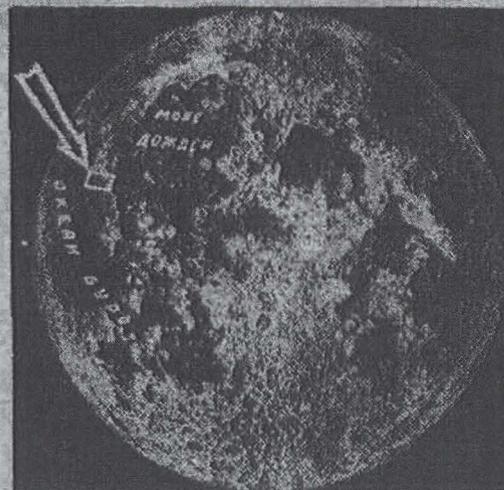
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Area of the
Luna 12
Photography



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